

# *News Release*

U.S. Department of the Interior / Bureau of Land Management  
Coeur d'Alene District Office / 1808 N. Third Street/ Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83814

For Immediate Release: March 7, 2006

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## **Comments Being Accepted on EIS for Revised Management Plan for BLM Lands in the Coeur d'Alene Planning Area**

**COEUR D'ALENE** – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) released a Draft Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (RMP/EIS) on January 13, 2006 pertaining to 96,770 acres of public lands administered by the BLM Coeur d'Alene Field Office. The BLM is accepting written comments on the RMP/EIS until April 14, 2006

These lands are located in Boundary, Bonner, Shoshone, Benewah and Kootenai counties of northern Idaho. When completed, the RMP will describe broad, multiple-use guidance for managing these public lands. The BLM encourages members of the public to review and comment on the Draft RMP/EIS until April 14, 2006.

The EIS assesses the environmental, social and economic effects of different management alternatives for the RMP. Issues addressed in the alternatives include motorized and nonmotorized access and recreation; management of forest vegetation and products; wildland fire management; watershed management and restoration; management of habitat for wildlife and special status species; and federal land ownership adjustments.

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The BLM held public meetings about the Draft RMP/EIS in Wallace on February 7, Coeur d'Alene on February 8 and Sandpoint on February 9. According to BLM Coeur d'Alene Field Manager Eric Thomson, "We had over 20 members of the public attend each of these meetings where we gave a general presentation about the Draft RMP and answered questions about topics such as transportation and access, recreation management and forest management." Thomson encourages the public to review the Draft RMP/EIS and provide comments during this review period. "We believe the public involvement process is particularly critical at this level of planning as it will guide our activities on the public land for the next 15 years or more."

The Draft Coeur d'Alene RMP/EIS is available on the Internet at the following address: <http://www.blm.gov/rmp/id/cda>. Copies of the document are also available at the following locations: BLM Offices in Coeur d'Alene and Boise, the North Idaho College Library in Coeur d'Alene and public libraries in Bonners Ferry, Coeur d'Alene, Hayden, Kellogg, Mullan, Osburn, Pinehurst-Kingston, Plummer, Post Falls, Sandpoint, Spokane (Main Branch and Spokane Valley), St. Maries and Wallace.

Written comments will be accepted until April 14, 2006 by any of the following means: 1) Email at [ID\\_CDA\\_RMP@blm.gov](mailto:ID_CDA_RMP@blm.gov); 2) Mail to: BLM Coeur d'Alene Field Office, ATTN: RMP, 1808 N. Third Street, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814; or 3) Fax at 208-769-5050, attn: Coeur d'Alene RMP. Comments will be most useful if they are specific, include suggested changes, mention page numbers where appropriate and cite sources when applicable. Comment letters and e-mails must include your complete name, address, and phone number. All substantive comments will be considered and responded to in the Final RMP/EIS.

For additional information or to be added to the official Coeur d'Alene RMP mailing list, please contact Scott Pavey, Project Manager, BLM, Coeur d'Alene Field Office, phone 208-769-5059, email to [scott\\_pavey@blm.gov](mailto:scott_pavey@blm.gov) or visit the project website at <http://www.blm.gov/rmp/id/cda>.

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